NN/LM
National Network of Libraries of Medicine
New England Region

New England Sounding Line

MLA and Summer is Upon Us
by John Stey, Associate Director

MLA '97 is now history but for those that were not able to make the trip to Seattle, we have the audio tapes available for loan. See page 7 for a list. John Clark of HSLIC has some interesting comments on his MLA experience that are worth reading. **http://www.state.me.us/dmhmrsa/amhi/library/mla97.htm**.

MLA was a success in that it provided many opportunities for continuing education and networking in a unique city. There were more than a dozen New England librarians who contributed papers, presentations and poster sessions.

Congratulations to Julie McGowan from UVM who received the MLA/ Medical Informatics Section Career Development Award for her work with VTMedNet.

At the NLM Update, it was announced that MEDLINE and other NLM databases available via Internet Grateful Med and PubMED will be FREE! The official press release took place on June 26th. This should eliminate the cost barrier for many health professionals as well as librarians searching NLM databases.

The new DOCLINE CD-ROM Computer Based Training module produced by the NER and the UCHC Video Communications Department was rolled out at the RML Directors meeting on May 23, 1997 to favorable reviews. Distribution plans are currently being negotiated. The CBT module will also be available on the WWW in the near future.

The EFTS presentation at MLA generated a good deal of enthusiasm from several regions. Thanks to all who sent in the forms with evaluative comments on EFTS. If you have not returned your form, we are still very interested in your responses. EFTS has now processed over 40,000 loans to date. An EFTS Advisory Meeting is being planned for August.

We would like to thank those who submitted the five Round 02 Outreach Proposals. Subcontracts will be awarded to Optima Health-Elliot Hospital in Manchester, NH ($23,988) submitted by Judy Reingold Spar and to Hartford Hospital-Gerontology Resource Center ($23,920) submitted by Arlene Freed. Many thanks to the reviewers, Shelly Quezada of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, Leslie Nicoll of the University of Southern Maine, Linda Ford of the Littleton Regional Hospital and Kathy Stemmer-Frumento of Bridgeport Hospital. And thanks to Becky Lyon and Angela Ruffin from the Network Office at NLM for their assistance and approval of the projects.

This summer we begin work on a new AIDS Project, outreach to local and state public health officials and a new video project on the Internet. And we'll toss in vacations and preparations for the NAHSL meeting in Burlington. Hope to see you soon.

Connecticut	Maine	Massachusetts	New Hampshire	Rhode Island	Vermont

Check us out on the World Wide Web at http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/ner/

Free MEDLINE
Press Release from the National Library of Medicine

VICE PRESIDENT GORE TO LAUNCH FREE ACCESS TO WORLD'S LARGEST SOURCE OF PUBLISHED MEDICAL INFORMATION ON WORLD WIDE WEB
Consumers and Health Professionals Worldwide to Have Fingertip Access to Cutting-Edge Research

(Bethesda, MD -- June 26, 1997) -- The National Library of Medicine, a part of the National Institutes of Health, will today launch a new service to provide all Americans free access to MEDLINE -- the world's most extensive collection of published medical information -- over the World Wide Web. Prior to this announcement, users have had to register and pay to search MEDLINE and other NLM databases. This free service will be demonstrated by Vice President Albert Gore at a press briefing to be hosted by Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) on Thursday, June 26, 1997 at 10:30 a.m. in Room 192 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, United States Senate.

In announcing the new free service, Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala said, "American citizens now have at their fingertips both the scientific information gathered by the National Library of Medicine, as represented in MEDLINE, and the extensive consumer health information in healthfinderTM, the service for the public that we announced in April. We are committed to using the new technology, including the World Wide Web and the Internet, to provide health information to the public."

"The National Library of Medicine's debut of free Web-based searching could not be more timely," said NLM Director Donald A.B. Lindberg, M.D. "The health care delivery landscape is changing. Citizens are increasingly turning to the Web as a source of information to improve their daily lives, including their health. So, it is vital that they, and the health professionals who serve them, have access to the most current and credible medical information."

"Medical breakthroughs are happening so rapidly that I believe health care professionals and consumers alike should be able to tap into the most recent medical information," added pioneering heart surgeon Michael E. DeBakey, M.D., chair of NLM's Board of Regents. "Such information is often the critical link in reaching the correct diagnosis, resulting in lives saved, unnecessary treatment avoided, and hospitalization reduced. Even with all our modern advances in health care, I still consider good information to be the best medicine." Dr. DeBakey emphasized this same point this past spring in testimony before a Capitol Hill appropriations subcommittee.

Harold Varmus, M.D., Director of the National Institutes of Health, applauded free access and observed it would have the additional benefit of improving the nation's scientific literacy. "The press briefing will demonstrate how the public, including high school and college science classes, will be able to search through MEDLINE and the Human Gene Map, another one of NLM's Web-based databases, and learn about inherited diseases that are located on our chromosomes -- in terms that the public can understand. No longer will the public be left in the dark as this fascinating and historic human genome research process unfolds."

"The medical library community is pleased that this vast treasure trove of medical knowledge will be opened up to the general public," said Rachael K. Anderson, President of the Medical Library Association. "Patients and their families are regularly turning to health sciences librarians to find reliable health information. Free MEDLINE means that we can now provide consumers with better access to the quality information they need, and librarians can help them to tap into the full power of this authoritative source."

To demonstrate the value this new service will have for consumers and health professionals, the press briefing will bring together a sampling of Americans whose stories are compelling examples of how access to MEDLINE and other sources of medical information from the Library positively touched their lives. Among those who will provide written or oral statements are:

o   A Pennsylvania book editor who went online to learn about non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and to find a clinical trial for her daughter, a University of Iowa student, who was diagnosed with the disease;

New Look at NLM!

The National Library of Medicine has given their web site a new and improved look. Their new logo has been incorporated with the Visible Human icon and their seasonal view of the NLM. This snappy image presides over a redesigned layout. You are now greeted with a two column design with information grouped under specific topics. They include Hot Topics, General Information, Databases & Electronic Information Resources, News, Our Publications, Special Information Programs and Grants & Acquisitions. At present, they are giving the opportunity to give some feedback on the new design via a online survey. So take a look and let them know if your information needs are being met. **http://www.nlm.nih.gov/**

National Library of Medicine Update
May 1996 - April 1997

Some highlights from the NLM Update for 1996-1997. Contact the office for a copy of the update.

• NLM will provide some level of standard bibliographic control for a greater range on electronic information sources, including Web sites, than it will acquire or preserve.

• Network Membership as of May 1, 1997 was 4,580.

• SERHOLD now contains over 1.4 million holdings statements for 3,202 libraries. One-third of them are updating online.

• Requests for Ariel at NLM increased 134% over last year coming from 111 libraries.

• As of April, there were 2920 active DOCLINE libraries that entered 1.4 million requests with 11% being filled by NLM.

• In March, 830 libraries accessed DOCLINE via the Internet for 31% of the total access hours. This is up from 21% last year.

New Number at NLM

Along with the homepage enhancements, NLM has a new toll free number: 1-888-346-3656 or (1-888-FINDNLM).

When this number is dialed, you will be presented with 4 automated menu options:

1 - MEDLINE
   Searching other NLM databases
   Grateful Med
   Account questions
   Password questions

2 - Reference services
   Questions about the NLM collection

3 - DOCLINE
   Interlibrary loan related-questions

4 - Library hours, Directions to NLM, Tour information

Or, the caller can hold and will be connected to an individual. Please make a note of this new number.

NLM Factsheets on the Web

The most current and updated NLM factsheets are available on their web site. You may want to take a look at the ones concerning interlibrary loan.

DOCLINE
   http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/docline.html

LOANSOME DOC
      **http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/
         loansome_doc.html**

SERHOLD
   http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/serhold.html

The entire list of more than 80 factsheets is found at:
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/factsheets.html

Outreach Subcontracts
by Kim Lavoie, Outreach Coordinator

We are pleased to announce the following awards for this years Outreach Projects.

Improving Rural Access to Health Information in Southern New Hampshire with Internet Grateful Med Training, Internet Basics, and Basic Computer Skills: Components of a Comprehensive Information Services Package
Optima Health - Elliot Hospital

The purpose of the project is to introduce pediatricians, family practitioners, and public health workers in Southern New Hampshire to computers and electronic information resources in order to improve patient care. The project will teach basic computer skills, provide instruction for Internet Grateful Med and Loansome Doc, and focus on the Internet as a resource for biomedical information.

Outreach to Providers of Long Term Care: Connecting to Electronic Resources and to Each Other
Hartford Hospital - Gerontology Resource Center

The project will equip long-term care providers in the greater Hartford, Connecticut area with Internet access. The participants will be able to find needed health information to support an elderly population with Grateful Med, CINAHL, and other geriatric/gerontology resources.

Congratulations to all who participated in this round. Keep thinking of great projects and be on the lookout for the deadline for their submission next spring.

A New Book From New England

FRANK R. KELLERMAN, a Biomedical Reference Collection Development Librarian at Brown University and Instructor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Rhode Island has authored a new book. *Introduction to Health Sciences Librarianship: A Management Handbook* takes a look at the balance between electronic resources, human ingenuity, and traditional print resources. With the ever increasing number of both kinds of resources, Frank provides practicle advice to librarians for meeting the challenges of the information needs of health professionals in todays world.

Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc.
Greenwood Press. Westport, Conn. 1997. 240 pages
LC 96-8427. ISBN 0-313-29761-4. GR9761 $65.00

EFTS MEMBERS JOINING

This is a listing of the organizations establishing EFTS accounts from April 30, 1997 to June 18, 1997. For questions, more information or to set up an account contact the office at 860-679-4500.

LIBID	SERHOLD CODE#	ORGANIZATION	DATE JOINED
05301B	BBT	Brattleboro Retreat	5/12/97
02120A	NBP	New England Baptist Hospital	5/20/97
02841A	NNN	Naval Hospital Med. Library	5/29/97
17821A	GMC	Geisinger Medical Center	6/18/97

EFTS MEMBEFTS MEMBERS LEAVING

These organizations have been removed from EFTS.

LIBID	SERHOLD CODE#	ORGANIZATION	DATE LEFT
02906B	MIR	Miriam Hospital	6/1/97
02195A	EPH	Emma Pendleton Bradley	6/1/97

There is a complete listing of EFTS participants on the NN/LM NER homepage, now updated twice a week:
http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/ner/

New EFTS Documentation

The original documentation for EFTS has finally been updated and revised. The packet includes *Accessing Your Account*, *The Transaction Data File Template*, Samples of Account reports and *Background & Instruction FAQ*.

If you are interested in the revised documentation, it is available on our web site or call the office and we can mail you a set.

We want to hear from you!
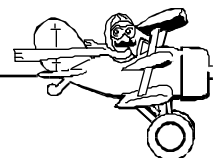
Please submit items by August 20, 1997 for the July - August issue.

(860) 679-4793 or donnald@nso.uchc.edu

Buying a Printer
by Jill Ehrenzweig, Education Coordinator

Issues to Consider

Purpose

The quality of printers is constantly improving. They are getting faster, quieter, and producing higher quality output. In order to make an informed decision when purchasing a printer, it is important to determine your need before you begin to evaluate the different models. Are you looking for equipment that can produce high quality, high quantity, or both? Some questions which are helpful to ask are: What kinds of documents will you be printing? Will they mostly be textual documents or will they include graphics and charts? What will you use these documents for (mailing labels, annual reports, camera ready copy, etc.)? Can you rely on black and white printing or do you need color? What quantity of printing will you be doing? Do you intend to network the printer? How much money to you plan to spend? And lastly, where will you house the printer? After you've determined the levels of quality and quantity you need, you can assess which type of printer is suitable for you.

Options

Dot Matrix Printers

A dot matrix printer is the low cost, low end model of printer. It operates similarly to a typewriter. A print head contains various pins which strike against an ink ribbon, marking dots on a page to create characters. Nine-pin print heads are capable of producing low quality output, while printers with 24-pin print heads produce higher quality output. Because dot matrix printers function by the mechanical movement of pins striking against a roller, they are comparatively louder and slower than the other two types of printers, ink jets and lasers. But for those interested in printing large quantities of black and white pages at an inexpensive price, they're often a good option, and for those who need to use continuous feed paper, they're the only option. Both other types of printer only accommodate single sheets of paper.

Ink Jet Printers

For better quality printouts than dot matrix and/or for printing in color, both the ink jet and laser printers offer good solutions. Ink Jet printers spray dots of ink onto a page, thereby creating characters. They require less mechanical movement than dot matrix printers, thus they're quieter, quicker, and produce a higher quality output than dot matrix printers. They're the mid-range printers, both for cost and for output, and they're suitable equipment for most offices or homes. However, because the ink spreads ever slightly when sprayed onto a page, it is not possible for ink jets to attain quite the same level of clarity as laser printers.

Laser Printers

Laser printers are capable of producing the highest quality output of the three types of printers. The way they work is by directing high temperature beams into toner powder to fuse it onto paper. Though ink jet printers produce high enough quality to accommodate most office jobs, camera-ready output can only be achieved by a laser printer. With the complicated technology of laser printers, it's not surprising that they are the most expensive of the three models.

What to Look For

How fast does the printer work?

The rate of speed at which a printer works is measured in one of two ways, pages per minute (ppm) or characters per second (cps). When evaluating printer speed, it is important to realize that the advertised speed of a printer is the speed at which it is possible for the printer's engine to work. Oftentimes, a printer can only attain the advertised speed when it is printing large black and white text. If the text is small, the printing is in color, or if there are charts or graphics, the speed is significantly reduced. The only way to determine the speed a printer can generate dense pages is by testing them using several types of documents. Try printing a basic word processor document on different printers, then try printing a page with heavy graphics.

How sharp is the output?

Resolution is measured in dots per inch (dpi). Unlike speed which is measured in ppm's or cps's, resolution is only measured in dpi's. That should make things easy for the consumer; however, there are some unique exceptions to keep in mind. If an ink jet printer and a laser printer produce the same dpi, the laser printer's output will be sharper. A laser with a resolution enhancers will produce much crisper output than its advertised dpi. Also, if something is advertised as having a certain "class", it means that it has a lower dpi that produces output similar to the noted class. For example, if a printer has a 720-class, it may be a 600 dpi printer that produces output similar to a 720 dpi. Another thing to watch for is whether the output of an ink jet smudges on a newly printed page. Though smudging doesn't occur with many models, it is still something to test for.

Ergonomics

How large is the paper tray, what size of paper can it hold, is it designed to guard against jamming, is it easy to remove jams, can you find and understand the function buttons, is it big, noisy, heavy, or does it vibrate excessively?

Maintenance/Supplies

What components need to be replaced or maintained regularly? For printing, dot matrix printers use ribbons. Ribbons are less expensive and last longer than cartridges for ink jet printers. The toner cartridges for laser printers last the longest but are also the most costly. One specific thing to look into with color ink jet cartridges, is how the color black is made. Some models make black by spraying all other colors together. These models use up color cartridges quickly. For those which have a separate cartridge for black, check whether the black can be replaced independently of the other colors. Since black is used most, being able to replace it independently is efficient. With paper, only dot matrix printers can accommodate continuous feed, while all can take typing bond and photocopier paper, typically 8.5" x 11", and a few can hold larger. Photocopy paper is the cheapest paper because of its low grade stock and the quantities it is ordered in. Continuous bond paper costs more. Sometime special costly paper and/or transparency film is needed with ink jet printers to prevent smudging. This is particularly common for printing graphics and colors.

Networking Printers

Like a lot of fax machines, most printers need to be plugged into a computer to work. To network a printer that is attached to a PC, you simply need to connect the PC to a network. Some new models of printers are designed more suitable to be networked though. These models have network cards built into them or have slots for network cards to be inserted. This allows you to avoid using a PC, just plug the card directly into a network.

If you want to avoid comparing variables when shopping for computers, you can always consult lists of recommended printers. The annual "Printer Blockbuster" in *PC Magazine* as well as reviews from *Macworld, MacUser,* and *Consumer Reports* are good places to look.

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o   A Maryland pharmacist who had six miscarriages before she consulted MEDLINE, found a treatment, and carried a baby successfully to term;

o   A Connecticut librarian who searched MEDLINE for a doctor who was concerned about hospitals performing mastectomies on an out-patient basis for insurance purposes. Her search resulted in a reversal of such insurance policies;

o   A New York police officer who searched MEDLINE to recover important information for three relatives with cancer -- his wife, father-in-law, and aunt. He now trains other officers in the use of MEDLINE;

o   A Virginia couple whose 6-month search of medical literature resulted in treatment for their son's rare inherited disease -- a search that became immortalized in the movie "Lorenzo's Oil";

o   A District of Columbia director of an AIDS advocacy group that uses AIDSLINE, an NLM database that is already free to the public.

o   Other individuals, from throughout the United States, will be available for comment by contacting the NLM.

The web address for the National Library of Medicine is: **http://www.nlm.nih.gov**. On June 26, this site will display free MEDLINE. Press will also be invited to view a demonstration of "PubMed" -- a new free NLM online service that will allow the public to establish direct web links between MEDLINE abstracts and the publishers of the full-text articles.

This new service is the result of a collaboration between the NLM and major science publishers such as the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Science*, *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, and *The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.*

Did You Miss MLA?
97th Annual Meeting & Exhibit

If you weren't able to travel across the country this year to MLA, don't despair. We have the complete set of audio tapes for the conference. To borrow any of the tapes, call Cheryl Sinkler at 1-800-338-7657 or 860-679-4500. Please limit it to 3 tapes at a time for a two week period.

Plenary Sessions

GS1. **Welcome to MLA '97** - *Kathryn J. Hoffman, Mark Frisse, Maryanne P. Blake*
President's Address - *Naomi C. Broering, Executive*
Director's Address - *Carla J. Funk*

GS2. **Plenary Session I** - *"The Wealth of Nations: Knowledge As a National Resource" - Kenneth I. Shine, M.D.*

GS3. **Plenary Session II** - *The Janet Doe Lecture: "Musings on Our Meetings: MLA Conventions, 'Ninety-eight to Date" - T. Mark Hodges*

GS4. **National Library of Medicine Update**

GS5. **Inaugural Address** - *Rachael K. Anderson, President, Medical Library Association, and Director, Arizona Health Sciences Library, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ*

GS6. **Legislative Update**

GS7. **Plenary Session III** - *"Will We Change the Aging Process or Will the Aging Process Change Us?" - Letty Cottin Pogrebin*

GS8. **Plenary Session IV** - *The Joseph Leiter NLM/MLA Lecture: "Positioning the Library at the Center of the Biomedical Enterprise" - William W. Stead, M.D.*

1997 Section Programming and Special Sessions

01. **Research and Medical Informatics Sections** - *"Collaborative Challenges Leading to Change: Medical Informatics Research"*

02. **Public Services and Medical Informatics Sections** - *"Delivering the Goods, Part A: The Challenges of Managing the New Technologies"*

03. **Consumer and Patient Health Information, Hospital Libraries, and Relevant Issues Sections** - *"Faster, Better, Smarter: Providing Consumer Health Information in Times of Shrinking Resources"*

04. **National Program Committee** - *"Innovative Approaches to Managing Academic Health Sciences Library Services and Resoruces"*

05. **Medical Library Education Section** - *"New Perspectives: Papers from Library School Students and Novice Librarian Presenters"*

06. **Mental Health Librarians Section and Lesbian/ Gay/Bisexual Health Sciences Librarians SIG** - *"Changing Our Minds: The Destigmatization of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Other Populations"*

07. **Federal Libraries Section, Department of the Army Medical Command Libraries SIG, and Department of Veterans Affairs Librarians SIG** - *"Meeting the Challenges of Downsizing: Unique Problems Facing Federal Libraries in a Downsizing Era: Outsourcing, Work Statements, Resource Sharing"*

08. **Research Section, Research Policy Implementation Task Force, and National Program Committee** - *"Research Challenges Facing Health Sciences Librarians"*

09. **Medical Society Libraries, Hospital Libraries, and Relevant Issues Sections** - *"Survival of the Fittest (or) It's a Jungle Out There!"*

10. **Educational Media and Technologies and Medical Informatics Sections** - *"Virtual Reality: Are We There Yet? Evolving Health Sciences Applications"*

11. **Collection Development, Federal Libraries, Medical School Libraries Sections, and Publishing and Information Industries Relations Committee** - *"Electronic Licensing Contracts: Are You Ready for the Challenge?"*

12. **Nursing and Allied Health Resources Section** - *"Evolving Mapping Challenges in Nursing and Allied Health"*

13. **Dental Section** - *"Problem-Based Learning in the Dental Sciences"*

14. **Veterinary Medical Libraries Section** - *"Responding to the Challenge of a Changing Environment: Observations and Lessons Learned from Animal Behavior"*

15. **Hospital Libraries and Pharmacy and Drug Information Sections' Automation Forum** - *"Networking Micromedex in a Hospital Setting - An Audience Participation Question and Answer Session"*

16. **NN/LM Outreach Session** - *"Reaching Out to Minority Communities: Planning and Evaluating for Successful Outreach"*

17. **Research Section and Research Ready Implementation Task Force** - *"The Challenge: Building Foundations for Change"*

18. **Public Services and Medical Informatics Sections** - *"Delivering the Goods, Part B: The Challenges of Managing the New Technologies"*

19. **Cancer Librarians, Consumer and Patient Health Information, and International Cooperation Sections** - *"Diverse Cultures, Diverse Responses: Meeting the Challenge of Health Information for All"*

20. **Technical Services and Collection Development Sections** - *"Technical Services and Collection Development Challenges in the Electronic Environment"*

21. **Pharmacy and Drug Information Section** - *"The EMBASE Lecture"*

22. **Public Health/Health Administration, Mental Health Librarians, and Relevant Issues Sections** - *"Suicide: The Challenges for Concerned Health Sciences Librarians"*

23. **Hospital Libraries Section** - *"Taking Charge: Evolving Management Skills to Meet the Challenge of Tomorrow"*

24. **Medical Informatics, Technical Services, and Medical Society Libraries Sections** - *"The Digital Library: Not Just Electronic Journals"*

25. **History of the Health Sciences and Research Sections** - *"Historical Research: Foundation for Change, Preparation for Challenge"*

26. **National Program Committee** - *"Innovative Approaches to Library Support for Health Sciences Education"*

27. **Chiropractic Libraries and Consumer and Patient Health Information Sections** - *"Alternative Care in a Managed Health Environment"*

28. **Medical School Libraries and Medical Library Education Sections** - *"Library Administration: Preparing for the Challenge"*

29. **Educational Media and Technologies and Public Services Sections** - *"Technostress: Surviving and Thriving in Constant Change"*

Grants Gallery
by Marion Holena Levine, Assistant Director

You have a great idea for a new initiative or program but need money to implement it. There is a grant program that might provide the additional funding needed to implement your idea. How do you go about writing a grant proposal? Where do you begin??

Some sources of information available to help you with the process are:

1. Grant proposal guides from the granting agency. Request a copy from the agency and read it carefully. The guide has all of the do's and don't's related to grant applications submitted to that particular agency. In many cases the guide also contains the forms which must accompany your grant proposal, along with other guidelines such as the number of copies to be submitted, the format of the narrative portion, and budget summaries. Usually the guides also list the review criteria used to evaluate proposals. Read this section very carefully. If a point system is used, make extra sure your proposal is fully developed in the sections to which the highest number of points are awarded.

2. Books written as grant writing guides. Three in particular spring to mind. The first is Successful Grant Writing: Strategies for health and human service professionals, by L.N. Gitlin and K.J. Lyons. New York: Springer, 1996. This book was written for "those in academic and practice settings who are either inexperienced grant writers or who have had some success but would like to expand their knowledge of the process." The second is L. Reif-Lehrer's Writing a Successful Grant Application, 2nd.Ed. Boston: Jones and Bartlett, 1989. This book, although old, has a particularly good section on understanding the NIH review process. Last, another oldie but goodie, P. Moore's Grantseekers' Guidebook: Tips, trends and resources for winning and managing federal funds. Alexandria, VA: Capitol Publications, 1989. This guidebook "puts you inside federal grants offices and tells you what program officers look for in a grant application, from how to organize a proposal to how to interpret reviewers' comments so you can revise and resubmit an unsuccessful application."

Good luck!

St. James Mercy School of Nursing Library in Hornell, NY will not be participating in BHSL until further notice. Their LIBID is 14843A and SERHOLD code ZGF.

Try NetTerm to Access DOCLINE on the Internet
by Edward Donnald, Network Coordinator

Now that you have access to the Internet, you want to join in and use it to do DOCLINE. Entering the requests in BORROW has never been a problem, but when it came to printing out those incoming requests, you ran into problems. Well, we now have one option that can make that little chore a breeze. The National Library of Medicine worked with InterSoft International to adapt their product to meet this need. NetTerm, version 4.1 or higher enter stage right.

NetTerm is a Windows based shareware program that you can download from the Internet. There are both 16 bit (Win 3.1) and 32 bit (Win95) versions. Try **http://starbase.neosoft.com/~zkrr01/netterm.html** or do a search on "NetTerm". To register it cost $20 and the manual is $10. It is a simple to use and very flexible program that is DOCLINE friendly.

After you've downloaded the program and opened it up, go to the Phone Directory under the File menu. There is a listing for the National Library of Medicine. Select that and then click on Connect. The connect type should be TCPIP. After you connect to MEDLARS, type "d" or DOCLINE and then enter your user id and password. You will then get the DOCLINE main menu. At this point, with your mouse, click on the "Receipt" button along the top of the screen. It's under the icon toolbar. This will send a "2" to DOCLINE indicating that you want to enter the RECEIPT function. Type "Y" in response to receiving the loans and they will scroll by. Then type "3" as you want to reprint all of the loans. You will then be prompted "align paper forms in printer ready to continue [Y]". Click on the "Print On" button and this will send a "Y" and the requests will scroll across the screen again. Next click on the "Print Off" button and your requests will be dumped to the printer, printing one request per 8 1/2 x 11 piece of paper. Finally type "1" to accept the loans and you're off to the shelves and photocopier.

I was surprised at how simple it was and how nicely the requests printed out. It may sound a bit confusing, but once you have the program open in front of you and you read through this, it'll make perfect sense. So, download NetTerm and give it a try. Of course if you have any questions or problems, give me a call. 1-800-339-7657.

For those of you who are using QuickDOC and are trying to get it to work on the Internet, get yourself a computer that's running Windows and is connected to the Internet. Next time I'll explain how simple it'll be for you to access DOCLINE on the Internet.

Net*Worthy
by Kim Lavoie, Outreach Coordinator

With each passing day, another Web site devoted to healthcare information appears on the Internet. This tremendous amount of information online makes the World Wide Web a powerful and valuable yet overwhelming resource for medical professionals. How can health sciences librarians quickly and easily determine if a resource is providing factual and reliable medical information? The librarian can consult a medical review site. Here are some examples of medical review sites:

Physicians' Choice
http://www.mdchoice.com/

> Physicians' Choice uses physicians to review and recommend medical sites with the goal of identifying useful sites for the practicing physician. A review consists of three sections: 1) a numerical rating of several categories 2) a description of the appropriate audience, and 3) a list of features. The criteria used to evaluate a site are harmony, links, original content, utility for the practicing physician, overall quality, general comments, specific content, suggestions, audience, and features. In addition, Physicians' Choice provides review and feature bars with summaries of the site. The individual evaluations list the date of the review.

Six Senses Healthcare and Medical Web Site Review
http://www.sixsenses.com/

> The Six Senses Review is a healthcare and medical Web site review program sponsored by Echo Strategies Group. They have developed a consistent set of criteria specifically for evaluating medical and healthcare Web sites. The sites are evaluated based on content, aesthetics, interactivity, innovation, freshness, and character. The reviews are updated two to three times per year. The reviewers consist of approximately 30 members from the fields of marketing and medical practice and bibliographies for each member are provided through online links.

So, the next time you need to compile a World Wide Web bibliography on orthopedics or internal medicine, check out the medical review sites for evaluative information.

Calendar of Events

August 14-15, 1997

MEDLARS Fundamentals Training
NOTC, New York, NY
Register by July 25
Info: 800-338-7657, press "2"
**http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/
mar/online/request.html**

August 25-26, 1997

MEDLARS Fundamentals Training
UCHC, Farmington, CT
Register by August 8
Info: 800-338-7657, press "2"
**http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/
mar/online/request.html**

September 27-30, 1997

NAHSL Annual Conference "Trail
Guide to the Health Information
Environment"

Burlington, VT
**http://sageunix.uvm.edu/dana/
nahsl/nahsl.htm**
NAHSL97@thyme.uvm.edu

October 5-7, 1997

New England Library Association
Annual Conference
Sturbridge, MA

October 29 1997

The NN/LM NER staff will be
exhibiting at the Toxicology Forum
at UCHC. (a.m. & p.m. sessions)
Info: 860-679-4500

November 6, 1997

The NN/LM NER staff will be
doing a presentation at
NPACE.
Boston, MA

November 6-7, 1997

MEDLARS Fundamentals Training
NOTC, New York, NY
Register by October 24
Info: 800-338-7657, press "2"
**http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/
mar/online/request.html**

December 4-5, 1997

MEDLARS Fundamentals Training
UCHC, Farmington, CT
Register by November 1
Info: 800-338-7657, press "2"
**http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/
mar/online/request.html**

New Video Tapes Available

The NN/LM collection of video tapes has gotten a little bigger. The two newest titles available to borrow are:

Getting Started...a MEDLARS overview
This 11 minute video tape gives an overview of NLM and its products and services. Included in the content are NLM, Elhill, MEDLARS, Grateful Med, and Loansome Doc. Though it was designed to introduce the Fundamentals of MEDLARS class, this video would service as a nice introduction to a class on NLM or Grateful Med.

Getting Started...the MeSH Vocabulary
This 12 minute video tape is the perfect solution for librarians and trainers who need to explain MeSH to their customers. It gives an in-depth presentation of what MeSH is; how terms are selected for inclusion in MeSH; how indexers apply MeSH terms to an article; what the Annotated Alphabetic List, Permuted, and Tree Structures contain and how to use them to improve search retrieval.

They are available to borrow, free-of-charge for a two week period. Contact the office at 1-800-338-7657 or 860-679-4500 for further information or to borrow one of these informative video tapes.

The National Network of Libraries of Medicine
New England Region
University of Connecticut Health Center
263 Farmington Avenue
Farmington, CT 06030-5370

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